



## Newsletter 11th March 2024

Learning for life in all its fullness. John 10:10

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*'Those who have reverence for the Lord will learn from him the path they should follow.'*

**Psalms 25:12**

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## Head Teacher's Welcome - issue 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite the rain, the school community continues to flourish as we work hard to offer our vision of 'Learning for life in all its fullness'. John 10:10. This means that we plan to offer a rich and ambitious curriculum for all of our children and then provide many opportunities that enrich the lives of our students. Last week, children took part in sporting events, years 1-6 participated in a cricket taster session and many children visited FOBs Mother's Day Present Room. Children also participated in cross country, Dance Club (two sessions), Art Club, Sewing Club, Football, Spy Club and Basketball. These were all well attended.

Our School Diocesan Consultant, Mr Meekings, visited the school last week and went into every classroom to meet with the children and staff. This review enabled us to discuss our school ethos, vision and values and see them all in action. Mr Meekings wrote to say,

'Thank you so much for your warm welcome today. Walking around your school is always an absolute joy and what I heard, saw and felt sent me away with so much confidence, as always, that Braunston is truly a Church School that serves its pupils, families, staff and the local community well. You should be, and I know are, justifiably proud of all that the school stands for'.

Working as part of PDET facilitates a comprehensive People Development support partnership and last week, we had a Teaching and Learning Review in maths. The maths curriculum continues to be a strength at Braunston, and you can clearly see the impact of the times tables and KIRFs focus (Key Instant Recall Facts) in the children's learning. Thank you for supporting your child in knowing these key facts.

This week, teachers have carried out our Spring Term assessments. As part of our assessment strategy, we collect data three times a year by carrying out formal assessments to determine progress and identify any common trends. These assessments are delivered sensitively and the information gained is analysed and used to address misconceptions or gaps in learning in future planning.

We look forward to discussing your child's progress and sharing further updates with you as parents in the Parent/ Teacher consultations being held next week. Please make sure you have signed up to a meeting as it is our aim to communicate with all of our parents in the best interests of your child/ children.

As you can see, we are managing to pack a lot in to the short term!

Our fabulous FOBS team have been working hard to support the school and, with your help, are busy raising funds for our new sensory area and improved environment around the pond. We are starting to think about designs and would welcome any of your ideas - please contact the school if you think that you can be of any help. Please see a message from FOBS below:

FOBS have had a slightly steadier start to the new term with events, however we have lots we are working on!

We have been overwhelmed by the support and generosity shown by parents and carers supporting FOBS events.

We saw a much welcome return to 'Break the Rules Day' in February. Wow, the children sure know how to break rules! We raised a whopping £382.00. Thank you so much for supporting the children to enjoy this fun day.

We received fabulous feedback from the Christmas present room, perhaps this success boosted the Mother's Day present room as 119 presents were bought! We look forward to welcoming the children to choose their gifts. We hope all females are delighted with their gifts and enjoy a restful Mother's Day!

Sadly we said farewell to our Chair Lucy Taffs in February. Lucy and her family moved away from Braunston, meaning Lucy needed to step down from her role. Lucy paid a pivotal role in the change of membership in September 2023. Lucy worked so hard during this time, was a fantastic lead in the initial set up and organised many of the events in the first term. We will miss Lucy greatly and thank her for all her efforts.

As Vice Chair, Claire Franklin will head up FOBS.

The next FOBS meeting is on Tuesday 12th March, 19:30 in the Wheatsheaf, it will be great to see you if you would like to join our fundraising efforts!

We are delighted to share with you the amount raised since September 2023 is £2219.67. We are continuing to work on ideas for a new pond area and renovations to outside space to hopefully include a sensory garden for all the children to enjoy.

We are actively planning towards Easter activities, as well as a Disco, Father's Day present room and our annual Summer Fete. Watch this space!

Thank you again for your continued support.

FOBS team

Best wishes

Lianna Willis

Headteacher

## Reception - Inkpen

The Reception children have been very busy in their first week back at school. We have been exploring height and length. The children's maths vocabulary has been fantastic, they are able to use a variety of different words to describe how tall, short, long or small something is.

We have been finishing reading 'On Sudden Hill'. The children have thoroughly enjoyed and immersed themselves in the book. To finish off the book we have been exploring speech and thoughts. We have been using our inference skills to infer what the characters are feeling and their thoughts.

The children have enjoyed designing their dragon eyes, made out of clay. The children chose which tools they wanted to use to create the desired effect, all of the dragon eyes created were very individual and personal to the children.

We are revising all of the set 1 sounds in phonics and recapping set 2, with a big focus on sounding out and blending the words together.











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*"These are the scales, this is his eye. I'm going to mould it again."*

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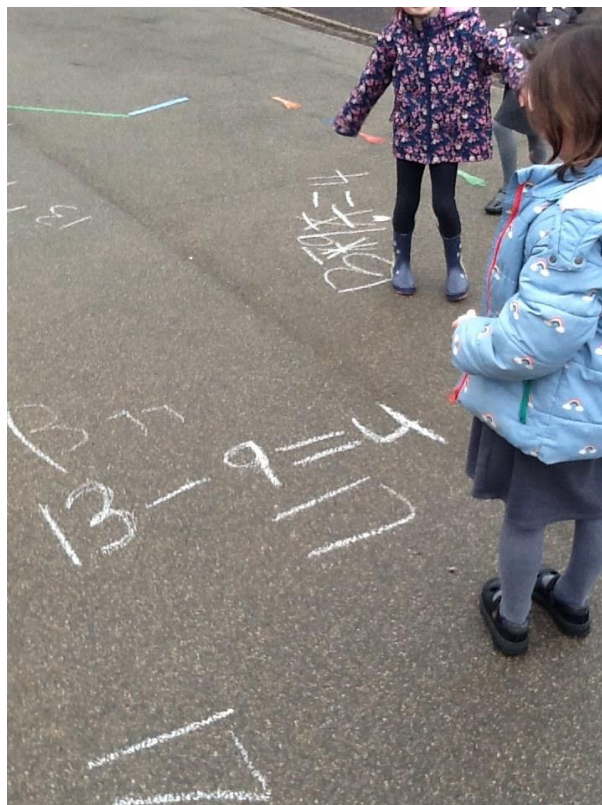
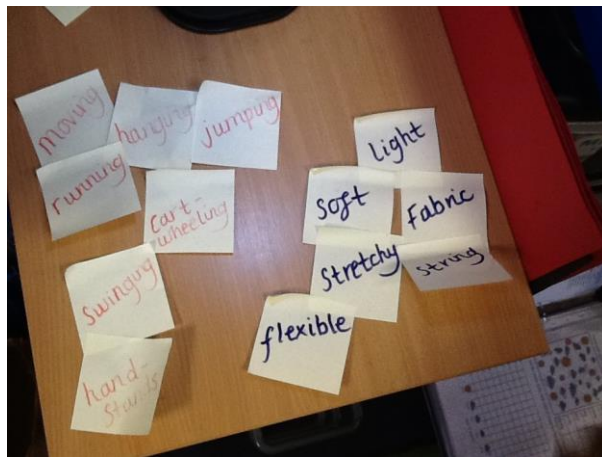
## Class 1 - Donaldson

The children in Year 1 have been very busy in and out of class this term! We have been busy making compasses and testing them in the playground to follow directions and points used on the compass. In English, we have been practising using words with the suffixes -ing, -ed, -er and -est and have been learning to find the difference in maths.

We are continuing learning all about materials in science and exploring the properties and explaining why certain materials might be better to make things with.

The children are really enjoying designing and making proto-types of bridges in our design and technology lessons. We cannot wait to see their finished models!







## Class 2 - Ahlberg

Ahlberg class have returned to school after half term bright and bushy tailed ready for another exciting term.

In English we have started to read 'Dogger' by Shirley Hughes - possibly the best book ever written for 7 year olds! We are enjoying getting to know the characters and imagining ourselves in their shoes. I am really looking forward to reading the stunning writing inspired by this book in the next couple of weeks.

In maths we are conquering fractions. So far we have learned how to find half and quarter of quantities and shapes and we are now moving on to finding three quarters and thirds. So far, the children have been superb at grasping this sometimes tricky concept.

In geography we have sailed the high seas, learning all the oceans and continents of the world. So far we have visited South America, Asia and Africa and still made it home for pick up time! Ask the children to sing you their 'continents song' - lots of practise will help them to remember.

Well done Ahlbergs - a great start to the term.







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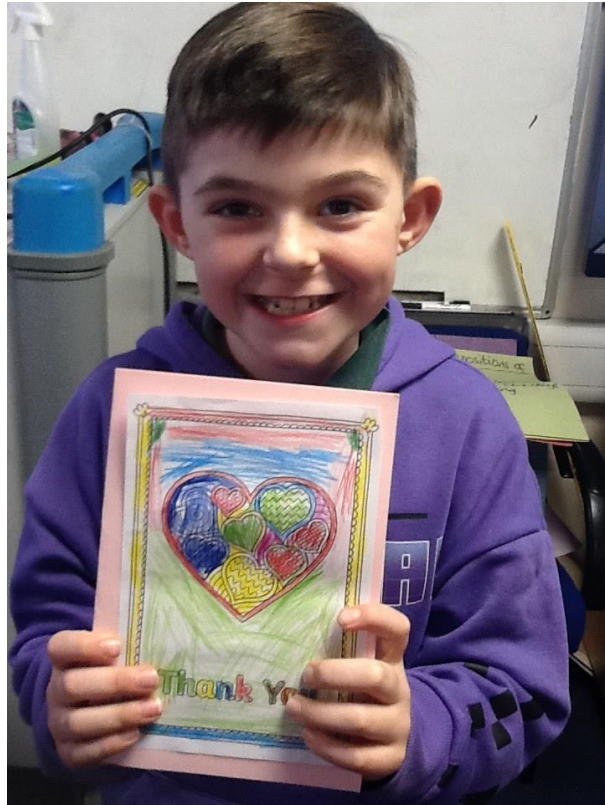
***Bertie** - I love George's Marvellous Medicine so much I have read it twice. That is 104 pages + 104 pages = 208 pages!*

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### Class 3 - Jamila

Class 3 have been working so hard across the curriculum! During our PSHE lessons, we have been looking at the importance of saying thank you and created some beautiful thank you cards for people who had done something kind or helpful for us. The children were so proud of their efforts! In our music lessons, we have been focusing on the Bob Marley song 'Three Little Birds'. We have been practising a range of different instruments and getting ready to perform our own versions to each other. We have really enjoyed this unit! In maths, we have been looking at division and using either a place value chart or a part-part-whole model to help support our thinking. We are really getting the hang of it now and can't wait to start division with remainders!









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*I have to share my counters equally between the right number of groups on my place value chart. There needs to be the same number in each group. What is in each group gives me my answer - Jasmine*

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## Class 4 - Morpurgo

In RE, we have been learning about the Hindu faith. Children in year 4 have kindly shared their knowledge, understanding and practice with the rest of the class. We have really enjoyed hearing about other religions and asking sensible questions of our peers. We are super proud of our peers for standing up in front of the class and confidently speaking about the Hindu faith. We love learning new things together!

In DT, we have completed our felt purse. The children have worked so hard to research, design, make and evaluate their felt purse. We are thrilled with their final design - the detail and effort that went into making their purse was fantastic. The children should be very proud of themselves - we certainly are!

In PE, we put our volleyball skills to the final test. We played mini matches across the class, demonstrating all of our skills from the term and impressing Mr Webb. He was so pleased to see a variety of shots across the class, superb teamwork and excellent sportsmanship! The class particularly enjoyed using the nets to play mini matches. Year 4 (and Mrs Oliver) love a healthy sporting competition!









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*I like playing volleyball with my friends. We have been learning the dig shot and I am getting better at it. I like it when I get to play against Mrs Oliver. - Aston*

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## Class 5 - Rowling

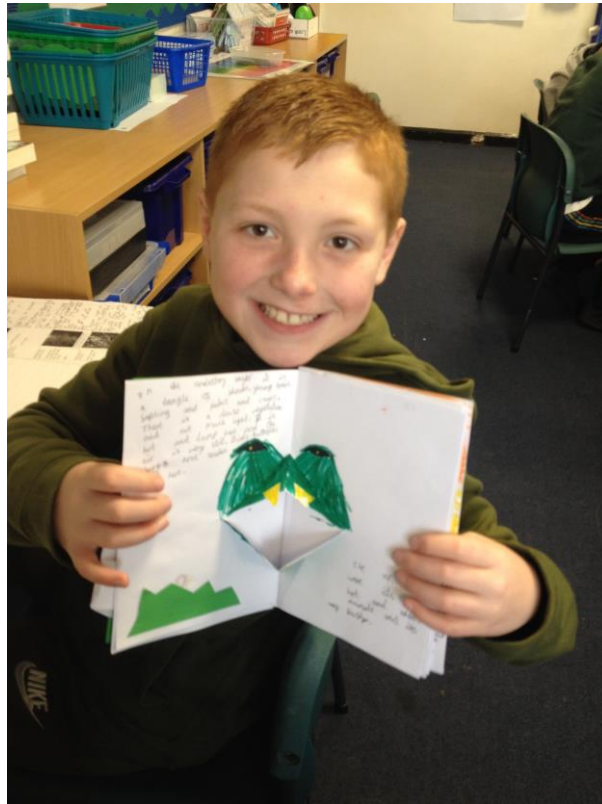
To finish off our unit of work about South America's rainforests, we put our design technology skills to good use. After exploring pop-up mechanisms, we designed and made a four page pop-up book: one to explain each layer of the rainforest. We made frogs whose mouths opened, sloths that hung from branches that arched out, harpy eagles that protruded from the emergent layer as well as many other fabulous designs, all dispersed with the information about the layers.

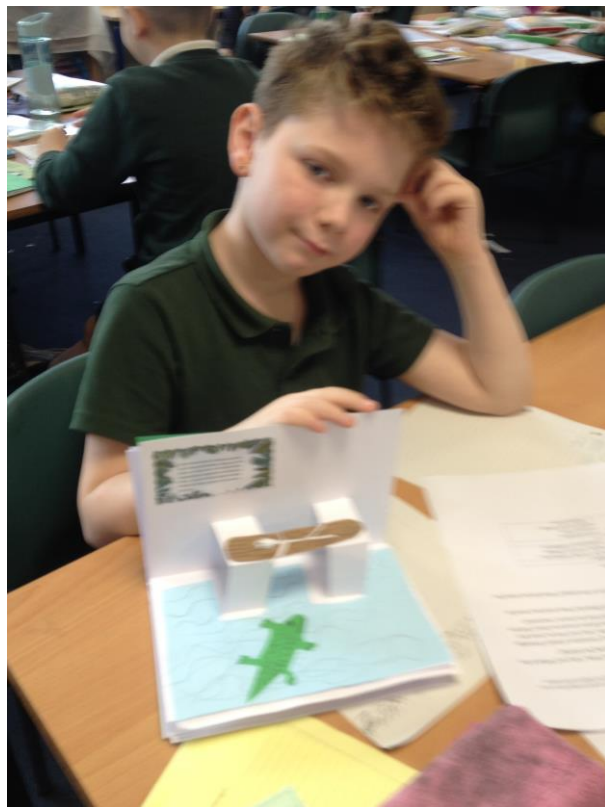
We also used our design skills, when completing our study of Judaism. After finding out all the features of a synagogue, we drew our bird's eye plans of the place of worship and labelled accordingly. We needed to ensure we had the Ark for the Torah, the eternal light and the Bimah platform for the Rabbi to stand on, as well as pews for men and women. Some children also realised a toilet was an essential too!

It was lovely to have one of Reverend Kathryn's friends visit us and talk about her everyday life and how she manages her disability. The children asked her some very thoughtful questions and it was lovely morning.

We are now very much looking forward to what the second half of the Spring term brings to us - hopefully some sunshine!



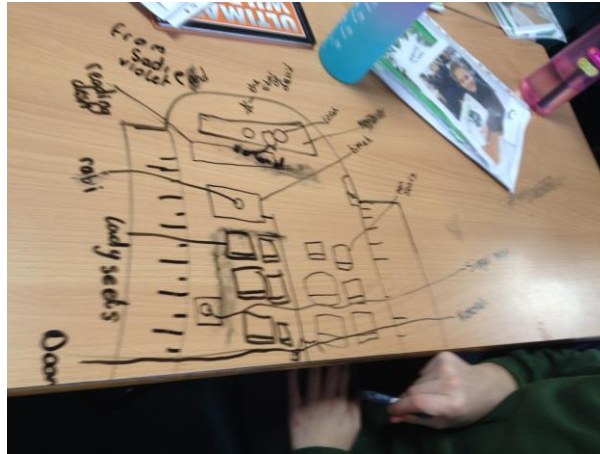












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*"I am so proud of our pop-up book!" declared Violet, while flicking through the pages. "We have included different mechanism types and it looks great."*

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## Class 6 - Horowitz

Class Horowitz have been busy since returning to school following half term. We have been looking at balanced arguments in our English lessons and had an interesting 'discussion' considering if watching television was a waste of time! In maths we have been looking at decimal numbers and ensuring that we know how to add, subtract, multiply and divide them accurately. Additionally, we have been trying out orienteering as well as gymnastics in PE and enjoying working in a team. In RE we have been investigating creation as it is written in the Bible. We have also welcomed Rev. Kathryn to Year 6 and she has led the discussion around Palm Sunday and Jesus's entry into Jerusalem as a peacemaker rather than a warrior. We shared our hopes for the world at this current time and wrote some of these onto palm leaves which we stuck onto 'the road to Jerusalem'. Our Engineering Club continued and eight girls visited Cummins for their second session. This involved questioning about what a computer is and how the computer operates a robot (ScareBob). The robot decided it would throw balls at us so we had to programme it accurately to make sure it threw the balls at a Lego wall rather than at us. It was great fun!





1 - Rev. Kathryn discussed our hopes for the world at this current time and prayed with us.



2 - We spent some time reflecting and some of us found it easier to do this with our heads down and our eyes closed.



*3 - We placed our hopes for the world on the road. On the back we wrote our personal hopes that were just shared between ourselves and God so these were glued facedown.*

"I enjoyed using the VR (virtual reality) headset. It showed us how to take something out of an engine and put it back in. It was quite challenging. It was fascinating to see all the huge engines and find out about the jobs they did. People seemed tiny next to the machines. " Carlene

## Focus On Sport

In year 3 and 5, the children concluded their tennis lessons with paired games over the net. Despite lots of rain and cold weather, all year groups enjoyed PE both inside and outside. Reception class had the opportunity to send a group of children to the Pace Setters multi skills tournament and they did extremely well - in fact, they returned with silverware! After finishing as runners up, their shiny trophy is on display in the entrance hall area. Well done to all those who took part.

Spy club have enjoyed completing various challenges with their group members. Many skills are needed to succeed: balance, co-ordination, team-work, co-operation and patience just to name a few. Dance club have also had great fun learning new dances and routines with Mrs Nash.





## Forest School



Hello from Forest School! Year 4 have commenced their sessions with a trip to Jetty Fields. They played a game using their sense of hearing and they used the trees as their cover. They loved the experience of hiding and being found. We collected small sticks and then made small rafts, with leaves as sails, which we will be testing next term.









## Church and Community



Braunston School takes part in collective worship on a Wednesday morning. This is led by Reverend Kathryn and the church team. Additionally, Rev Kathryn has been focusing on Inclusion , Equality, Diversion and Justice. As a result there have been several visitors to the school from the wider church community who have shared their own story and the challenges that they may have faced. We have heard about ADHD, deafness and also Multiple Sclerosis from those people who know first hand how that impacts their daily life. After each special assembly, Rev Kathryn and the church community visitor have led a workshop in a classroom. This has allowed children in the classroom to ask questions and find out more information. This has been enjoyed by children and visitors alike and created a greater understanding of the challenges surrounding Inclusion , Equality, Diversion and Justice.

Recently, Rev Kathryn came into Year 6 and she has led the discussion around Palm Sunday and Jesus's entry into Jerusalem as a peacemaker rather than a warrior.

We are working closely with the church and you will have seen the communication via WEDUC (see below for a reminder):

***Dear Parents and Carers,***

***I love working with your children at school, and the attached letter is about further ways your child can explore faith. In addition, I'd like to invite children from Braunston School to lead the service at Braunston Church on Sunday 17th March. I would help them prepare at school, and you would need to bring them to church at 10am for the 10:30 service. If you'd be happy for your child to participate, please email me on [revkathryn@outlook.com](mailto:revkathryn@outlook.com) Every blessing, Kathryn***



*4 - Year 6 reflected on their hopes for the world and were encouraged to do this however we felt best. Some of us closed our eyes as that helped us to focus.*



*5 - We shared our hopes.*

Wellbeing

Wellbeing

### **Spotlight on The Cabin**

We are really lucky at Braunston to be able to offer a lunchtime nurture provision to the children. The Cabin is a safe, caring environment where children can come and spend some time



away from the hustle and bustle of the playground and classroom. It is open to all ages across the school and is very popular. Children are invited to access the Cabin by staff who have identified that the child may need a little extra support, for example they may be experiencing friendship difficulties, have worries they wish to share or are perhaps not feeling well enough to join their friends in the playground. Children can also put themselves forward for an invitation if they wish to do so and we often have small clubs set up by the children that use the Cabin as a base. For example, we have held a Computer Club, a Comic Club and a Jigsaw Club.

The Cabin is a really positive environment with games and activities designed to allow the children to work together and build friendships. It is not used as a punishment and children are not forced to attend. All children who do come along to the Cabin are made to feel welcome, and they are encouraged to work alongside each other to promote interaction, communication and teamwork, as well as giving them time to talk and share their feelings. The Cabin is a 'drop-in' club, so children are welcome to split their lunchtimes between the Cabin, eating lunch with their friends and spending time outside in the fresh air.

Since we started the Cabin, it has grown to be an integral part of lunchtimes at Braunston and it is always lovely to see the friendships developing across the age groups; improving wellbeing and creating a sense of belonging.





## Certificates of The Week

Pupil of the Week		
	16.2.24	1.3.24
Inkpen	Jacob	Daphne
Donaldson	Oleksa	Axelle
Ahlberg	Kingsley	Emily
Jamila	Stanley	Bertie
Morpurgo	Sophie	Max
Rowling	James	
Horowitz	Carlene	Bert

<b>Our School Value</b> Resilience – Relationships – Reconciliation – Responsibility – Respect & Reverence - Reflection		
	<b>16.2.24</b>	<b>1.3.24</b>
Inkpen	Pippa	Rosie
Donaldson	Roman	Luna C
Ahlberg	Theo	Seth
Jamila	Conall	Oliver
Morpurgo	Jacob	Alfie
Rowling	Sophia	
Horowitz	Charlie	Freddie

<b>Presentation Award</b>		
	<b>16.2.24</b>	<b>1.3.24</b>
Inkpen	Poppy	Evan
Donaldson	Ella	Amelia
Ahlberg	Rory	Mary
Jamila	Lincoln	Isaac
Morpurgo	Sofia	Ellie
Rowling		Riley
Horowitz	Aerinn	Grace

<b>Problem Solver</b>		
	<b>16.2.24</b>	<b>1.3.24</b>
Inkpen	Eliza	Reuben
Donaldson	Erin	Stanley W
Ahlberg	Seth	Dexter
Jamila	Elliott	Hanna
Morpurgo	Mikey	Zachary
Rowling		Pippa
Horowitz	Billy	Darcey

## Attendance

Attendance		
	16.2.24	1.3.24
Inkpen	92.8%	97.4%
Donaldson	98.3%	100%
Ahlberg	96.3%	92.8%
Jamila	96.7%	98.6%
Morpurgo	98.3%	95.7%
Rowling	100%	98.2%
Horowitz	98.7%	99.2%
WHOLE SCHOOL	97.4%	97.7%

## Contact Us

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***Tel :- 01788 890494***

***Website :- [Website](#)***

***Email :- [bursar@braunston.pdet.org.uk](mailto:bursar@braunston.pdet.org.uk)***

***Headteacher :- [head@braunston.pdet.org.uk](mailto:head@braunston.pdet.org.uk)***

***Chair of Governors :- [j.morgan@braunston.pdet.org.uk](mailto:j.morgan@braunston.pdet.org.uk)***

***If you have a safeguarding concern click [HERE](#)***

**WEDUC**

***Link to calendar of events [Calendar](#)***

***Report An Absence - [Forms](#)***

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